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## U.S. House of Representatives

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Washington, DC 20515

October 10, 2000

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# Appropriation Conference Report Scorecard: Congress Spends More than Clinton *Five for Five...And Counting*

Dear Colleague:

Last week I sent out a "Dear Colleague" explaining that Congress has appropriated *more* than the President requested in the four appropriations conference reports it had approved to date. The Transportation Appropriations conference report that both the House and Senate adopted on Friday, October 6, makes it "five for five."

The table below compares the President's request to what Congress actually appropriated for the first five appropriations bills jointly agreed upon by the House and Senate. Energy and Water has been vetoed by the President, primarily over an anti-environmental rider attached by Congress.

### Comparing the President's Request with Appropriations Conference Reports (Dollars in billions)

Appropriation Bill	App'n Above Request		President's Request		Appropriation	
	BA	Outlays	BA	Outlays	BA	Outlays
Defense	3.3	4.3	284.3	273.5	287.6	277.8
Military Construction	0.8	0.0	8.0	8.6	8.8	8.6
Energy and Water	0.9	0.7	22.7	22.4	23.6	23.0
Interior	2.5	1.3	16.4	16.0	18.9	17.3
Transportation*	3.2	1.5	14.6	47.5	17.7	49.0
Total	10.6	7.7	346.0	368.0	356.6	375.8

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

\*Excludes \$348 million in BA and \$217 million in outlays for items normally provided in Treasury-Postal Appropriations.

As the table indicates, Congress has already appropriated \$10.6 billion more in budget authority and \$7.7 billion more in outlays than the President requested for these five bills.

Respectfully,

John M. Spratt, Jr.  
Ranking Democratic Member